A Growing Newspaper
In A Growing Town

TIMES-VIRGINIAN

Historic Appomattox Gave
Unity and Peace to America

A LIVE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE VIRGINIA

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Father Darkleaf

By c. h. r.

Was chatting with a friend re-tly about the sad state of hand-ting. We recalled the "copy ks" of our school days, and that stever else one learned in school, was fairly thoroughly drilled in ding, writing, spelling and basic hmetic. Actually, there was much re, for one had to know a fair of Latin and Geography and Eng- Grammar. I had some thoughts this matter later, and was con-rting a discourse along this line. e of the odd current angles was fact that so many people who ow better" seem to delight in r handwriting. I am somewhat ity of that. I can turn out a ly neatly written document by d, yet often, in haste, I sign my e in such a manner that no one ld possibly read it. Come to think it, I do not do much handwriting. ave two typewriters, one at the ce and one at home . . and all y I operate a machine that casts tal lines of type. Had I, for ample, to write out this copy with n and ink, much less all of the her writing I have to do, I would nsider myself severely handicap-d. And so it is, the fact that too ny of us don't do enough hand-iting is doubtless a factor in the d state of penmanship. Many dread e writing of letters by hand. We ke up lots of rubber stamps, so e won't have to sign so many ces of paper. Pert stenographers mpose neatly typewritten letters, d burried executives scribble an nintelligible initial or okeh at the tter and that is it. We would ve a near revolution on our hands it was ordered that every citizen ake a handwritten copy of the onstitution! (insert: we decided t to paragraph this discourse. La-r we may open up on English mposition). Right in the midst of ur pondering along this line, we an across a fine feature in a Sun-ay newspaper. It was a full page in ength, and the headings were: Da-s of Penmanship—and—Locker ands Local Schools. Excellently itten it was, and we set the page side to show our friend mentioned the beginning of the column. The rticle recalled the contribution to ur society of one P. P. Spencer, ead these ninety years. He so in-fluenced our world that once it was great compliment to say of some-e, "He wrote a fine Spencerian hand." He developed an entire sys-m of writing, this great man who laid to rest in Geneva, Ohio. Ar-ms Edson, who wrote the article on enmanship in the Sunday paper, tates that poor handwriting is ex-pensive. He declared that a telephone ompany in just one state lost $50,-000 a year because the operators wrote so poorly no one could figure out who should be charged with the all. He said that insurance execu-ives complain they cannot read the olicy forms turned in by their alesmen. And then he took off on hysicians, as notorious writers. No matter how I might like mixing hemicals, I would never risk being a pharmacist, because I know that would fear I had misread the doc-or's prescription. There are many famous jokes about this, but it is serious business. You might take ten grains of some strong drug when the poorly written order really meant ten grams. One bank said it lost $5,000 a year because of the poor handwriting of its customers. And so, maybe we should commend Rich-mond, Va., for making penmanship a major project in public schools. They work on the system of W. Clyde Locker, who is now 80 years of age, but still a director of pen-manship in schools. His ideal is to teach "acceptable" penmanship. He asks, "Who wants to hire a boy who can't write so you can read it?" An excellent question. It is currently believed that "Spencerian" is out-dated. You can't teach it in mass educa-tion. Too many of us cannot mas-ter classic penmanship. We may never have a generation of master handwriters. Just skip it. But sure-ly we should aspire to doing better than we are, and I offer the sugges-tion that we set ourselves to the task of doing more handwriting and taking pains to do it so that strang-ers can read it. Some cannot even read their own handwriting after it "gets cold." This applies to all of us. Some of the worst writers as to penmanship have been famous men. Perhaps the prize, if prize there be, would go to the immortal Hor-ace Greeley. He was the editor of the New York Tribune. He lived from 1811 to 1872—a fairly long

(Continued on Page Ten)

Set Goal of Big Vote In Monday's Election

Adult Farmer Class Planned For Pamplin

The Agricultural Committee of the Pamplin Ruritan Club announces that it has chosen a list of topics to be covered at a series of ten evening classes to be held for farmers in Pamplin beginning the first week in February. The Ruritan Committee members, Cecil Ligon, Earl Smith, E. M. Sears, Luther Nash, and James Rosser met recently with W. Lewis Motley, vocational agriculture instructor, Appomattox High School, to make plans for the adult farmers evening class. The Ruritan Club of Pamplin co-sponsors these evening classes with the Department of Vocational Agriculture of Appomattox County.

The committee announces the following tentative subjects to be covered at the meetings: Filing Farm Income Taxes, The Appomattox A. C. P. Program, Improving our Forest Lands, Winter Feeding of Livestock, Growing Alfalfa, Planning the Home Garden, Place of Small Fruits on the Farm, Controlling Animal Diseases, The Operation and Care of Electric Motors, and Canning and Food Preservation. A list of the exact meeting dates and outside authorities to help conduct the classes on the various subjects will be announced later.

New 4-H Club Is Organized At Hixburg

Kinckle Martin was elected president of a new 4-H Club which was organized in the Hixburg community on December 19, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Martin. The other officers elected were: vice-president, Eloise Rosser; secretary and treasurer, Ann Martin; reporter, Louella Martin; song leaders, Jane Nash and Lawrence Nash, Jr.

Mr. James A. Smith, the county agent, presented Kinckle Martin a medal for work done last club year on his meat project, and Louella Martin a medal for her work last club year on a dairy project.

Mr. Smith discussed some of the projects club members might choose. Each was to decide on a project and report at the next meeting. The program committee: Eloise Rosser, Estelle Covington and Percy Lucado, Jr., will meet with Mr. J. A. Smith, Mrs. B. G. Anderson, Mr. Bailey Wilkins and Mrs. R. K. Martin and work out a program before the next meeting.

Kinckle Martin appointed Henry Earl Covington and Ann Martin to have some suggested names for the new club to be presented at the next meeting. After the business session, the club members held a Christmas party.

Demonstration Club Schedule

The following schedule has been announced for Home Demonstration Club meetings next week:

Monday, January 9.- TheBethany Home Demonstration Club will meet with Mrs. Larkin Harvey. Demonstration will be on party refreshments and will be given by Mrs. Mott Harvey and Mrs. Ryland Staples.

Tuesday, Jan. 10.- Clover Hill Home Demonstration Club will meet at 10:30 A. M. with Mrs. Jessie Carwile, and Mrs. T. R. Richardson. Demonstration will be on chair seating and will be given by Mrs. W. H. Conner and Mrs. T. M. Richardson.

Thursday, Jan. 12.- The Stonewall Home Demonstration Club will meet at the Stonewall Community Center at 1:30 P. M. Demonstration will be on chair seating.

Monday, Jan. 9.- The Richwood Home Demonstration Club will meet at 7:30 P. M. with Mrs. R. E. Wilbun. Mrs. A. R. Harwood, Jr., will give a book review.

Post Office Receipts Set New Record

An all-time record for receipts in a calendar year, was set during 1955 by the Appomattox Post Office, E. L. Smith, postmaster, stated today that the total receipts for 1955 were $53,946.90.

This total compared with $46,072.89 in 1954, and $37,183.[illegible] in 1953.

The level of receipts means that Appomattox will continue as a first class post office. A big factor in the amount of total receipts is the volume of parcel post handled by the Appomattox office. The local garment industry contributes largely to this volume of parcel post being sent out from Appomattox.

CHRISTMAS MAIL RECEIPTS BREAK ALL-TIME RECORD

Confirming earlier predictions by Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield(the Post Office Department announced today it handled the biggest Christmas mail in its history this year, with letter mail up an estimated 5.90 per cent and parcel post mail up an estimated 12.05 per cent over 1954's volume, a previous record.

The estimate was based on last-minute reports received at the Post Office Department from 46 major post offices all over the nation that handled more than a quarter of the total mail load.

Womans Club To Meet Monday Afternoon

The Womans Club of Appomattox will meet Monday afternoon in the high school cafeteria, at 3 o'clock. The Welfare Department, of which Mrs. Mildred Alvis is the chairman, will present the program. Mrs. Elizabeth Gregory, of Burkeville, will be the guest speaker. Hostesses for the afternoon will be: Mrs. Calvin Robinson, Mrs. Kenneth E. Coleman, Mrs. David Randolph Caldwell and Mrs. Walter E. Ferrell.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA MENU

Monday, Jan. 9.- Tomato soup, with crackers; 1-2 cheese sandwich, sliced peaches, 1-2 uint milk.

Tues., Jan. 10.- Meat loaf, creamed potatoes, string beans, hot biscuits, jello, 1-2 pint milk.

Wed., Jan. 11.- Hot dog with dressing, baked beans, cole slaw, ice cream, 1-2 pint milk.

Thursday, Jan. 12.- Lima beans, turnip greens, pineapple, rice, hot biscuits, cookies, 1-2 pint milk.

Friday, Jan. 13.- Vegetable stew with crackers, 1-2 cheese sandwich, blue plums, lime jello, 1-2 pint milk.

STAMP ISSUE TO HONOR WILSON

Something unique is the offering of U. S. postage stamps is scheduled for Tuesday morning, January 10, when the first issue of a 7c stamp honoring Woodrow Wilson will go on sale in Staunton, Virginia.

The bedroom in which Wilson was born will be turned into a temporary post office by Staunton postmaster Wallace Rosen, marking what is believed to be the first time stamps have been sold and letters posted in the actual birthplace of a President.

The 28th President was born December 28, 1856, in the manse where his family lived while his father was minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Staunton.

The house is now owned by the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation, and was dedicated as a national shrine in 1941 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Birthplace Foundation has provided an unusual cover for first day mailings, decorated with a picture of Wilson, an insert of the Birthplace, and data concerning the milestones of the President's life.

Collectors desiring the first day cancellations on this cover should address The Woodrow Wilson Birth place Foundation in Staunton. The cost of the cover, including postage is 25c for single orders, or 20c each for ten or more.

Activity Up For Year At Clerk's Office

There was a general increase in transactions at the office of County Clerk C. W. Smith during the year 1955. A summary at the beginning of the new year, revealed interesting data on the many activities of the office.

The number of marriage licenses issued declined, a trend noted for several years. In 1953, a total of 84 marriages licenses were issued here, and there were 60 in 1954. In 1955 the numbed decreased to 57.

There was an increase in the number of deeds recorded. The 1955 total was 569. This compared with 490 in 1954, and 461 in 1953.

Under the heading of wills and administrations filed, the 1955 total was 27. For 1954 it had been 26, and for 1953, 24.

Chancery cases moved up a notch, from 39 in 1954 to 40 in 1955.

Actions at law were 98 in 1955, compared with 103 in 1954, and 36 in 1953.

There was an increase in the number of hunting, fishing, big game and National Forest licenses issued. From this source, $4,207 was received in 1955, for a total of 2,098 licenses.

The many transactions of the office were handled with efficiency and dispatch by Mr. Smith and his staff.

Tax Meeting Friday Night

Income tax filing time is just around the corner. To help Appomattox County farmers to file correctly, and have an opportunity to ask questions about the procedure, W. J. Nuckolls, Extension Econoimst of V. P. I., will meet with interested farmers on Friday night, Jan. 6, at 7:30 o'clock, at the local Court House.

Nuckolls will also answer questions concerning social security.

WOODMEN NEWS

The Supreme Forest, Woodman Circle Grove 73 will have its regular meeting Tuesday, January 10, at 7:30, at the American Legion Hall. All members are urged to be present.

Continuing Need For Polio Funds Explained as Drive Starts

Although the number of polio cases reported in Virginia in 1955 was less than half the average number of the previous five years, Virginia will still have polio problems in 1956, State March of Dimes Campaign Director, Capt. Edmund F. Jewell declared today. The 1956 March of Dimes drive is now in progress over the nation.

"Continuing cooperation of physicians is necessary in administering the vaccine and in caring for patients already paralyzed and for those who will be paralyzed in spite of the vaccine. The Salk vaccine is not 100% effective and it will take considerable time yet, perhaps years, before all individuals most susceptible to paralytic poliomyelitis can be fully immunized against it," stated Jewell.

The State March of Dimes chairman went on to point out that the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, supported through public contributions to its January March of Dimes, has made an enviable record, both in this state and nationwide, for meeting the problems posed by paralytic polio. In 1955 the March of Dimes gave over 366,000 cc. of Salk vaccine without charge to the State of Virginia to initiate a statewide vaccination program.

March of Dimes boxes for contributions have been placed in public places over the county, and an effort is being made to secure generous response again this year to the cause of fighting polio.

The results already reported from the use of the vaccine are most encouraging, but there remains a great need for additional research to improve the Salk vaccine, to determine the duration of immunity it effects (and conversely to determine the need for "booster shots") and to provide the best possible treatment for patients already or yet to be involved with paralytic poliomyelitis. There is also a vast need for the professional education of young men and women who will contribute to the necessary research and help give the needed treatment.

"A brief review of the record of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in Virginia, where it now has 107 local chapters, should help to acquaint Virginia citizens with the many services to patients and the professions which have been made possible by the March of Dimes since 1938 when the National Foundation was founded," commented Jewell.

About $4,580,000 has been spent by local chapters in Virginia for the care of polio patients.

A total of 99 National Foundation scholarships and fellowships have been awarded to Virginia residents.

A total of 10 tank respirators, 2 chest respirators and 3 rocking beds were sent into Virginia as emergency shipments in the first 11 months of 1955. In the previous year Virginia got 14 respirators, and 3 rocking beds.

Teachers Association Favors Convention

The Appomattox Education Association, made up of teachers in the white public schools of Appomattox County, went on record yesterday as being in favor of a "For" vote in the election to be held Monday, January 9. The Association held a called meeting at Appomattox High School to determine the stand of teachers on the issue to be voted on Monday. The action means that the Association favors the calling of a constitutional convention, in accord with recommendations of the Gray Commission.

Dark-Fired Sales Active On Re-Opening

Dark-fired tobacco markets reopened this week after Christmas holidays, and found offerings and prices in line with those of the preholiday sales. On the first day of the 1956 sales in Lynchburg, 129,252 pounds of dark-fired leaf were sold, at an average price of $34.98 per hundredweight.

INJURED HERE IN A NON-COLLISION ACCIDENT

Charles D. Carter, 21, of 2861 Fort Ave., Lynchburg, was injured in a non-collision automobile accident on Route 1002 about .4 mile south of Appomattox at 1:30 A. M. yesterday morning. He suffered a bruised back and a concussion. He was a passenger in a car which failed to make a curve. Trooper R. L. Bumgardner reported that the car was driven by Clarence H. White, 20, of Appomattox, and that also injured in the mishap was Garland Doss, 17, of Appomattox. Doss was treated at Lynchburg General Hospital for head bruises, and released.

APPOMATTOX G. O. C. POST

There will be a practice watch on January 8, according to C. O. John Ivey Holland, of the Appomattox Ground Observer Post. The watch will be from 8 to 8. Members of the post are urged to be present.

Interest appeared today to be mounting rapidly in the special election to be held in Virginia on Monday, January 9, for a "For" or "Against" vote on calling a constitutional convention to enact Gray Study Commission recommendations to present the present segregated public school system in the Old Dominion.

Latest information is that Appomattox County might roll up a total vote comparable to the 2,603 cast in the Democratic primary in July 1955. It is reported that close to 300 mail ballot applications have been received, and this is indicative of a vote of at least 2,500.

Local leaders appear confident that Appomattox County will poll a top-heavy majority "For" the convention, but they were leaving no stones unturned in an effort to bring out every eligible voter for Monday's balloting. By paid newspaper advertisements, by letters to voters, by a public speaking mass meeting, and by hard personal appeal, the "For" forces feel that all has been done that could have been done to carry the issue to the public. A tremendous "For" vote was deemed necessary in Southside Virginia, to offset possible "Against" votes in Northern Virginia.

The polls will be open Monday from 6:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M.

The balot contains a detailed statement of the issue, but ends with two squares, wherein voters will mark either in the "For" or "Against" bracket.

The election comes after a 14-month study by the Gray Commission, to make recommendations in the light of the May, 1954, decision of the Supreme Court as to segregation in public schools.

New Book In County Library

Island in the Sun — by Alec Waugh. This novel is a brilliant and distinguished book; a story with tension and excitement. It is a vivid tale of violence and suspense against a background of a sun-drenched island in the West Indies.

A few casual words spoken at a cocktail party in Santa Marta, an attractive girl arriving at a reception in London, a stalled engine that starts a minute too soon — these lead directly to the ouster of a cabinet minister, the recall of a governor, the downfall of a demagogue and a new career for a slipping gossip columnist.

DEATHS

MISS JANIE McKINNEY

Miss Janie McKinney died here January 1, after an illness of 14 months.

Miss McKinney was born in Amherst County on August 10, 1870, the daughter of the late Samuel Henry and Mary Elizabeth Averett McKinney. She had lived in Appomattox for the past 35 years. She was a member of the Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by two nieces, Miss Frankie McKinney, of Appomattox, and Mrs. Bolling Lynn Robertson, of Delaplane.

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning at 10 at the Appomattox C. H. Presbyterian Church, conducted by the pastor, Dr. Twyman Williams. Interment was made in Spring Hill Cemetery, Lynchburg. Pallbearers were: F. L. Murphy, A. A. Babcock, J. A. Burks, C. Kendall Hunter, T. DeWitt Evans and John C. Caldwell.

DR. E. N. DAVIDSON

Buckingham, Dec. 27.- Dr. E. Norvell Davidson, 72, died unexpectedly Christmas Day at his home in Linden, N. J.

Born May 15, 1883, in Buckingham County, he was the son of Eli Banton and Louise Norvell Davidson. He had been a practicing physician in New Jersey for the past 35 years. He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Gail D. Nelland, College Park, Md., and a brother, C. F. Davidson, Emporia.

HAZEL MOON CIRCLE

The Hazel Moon Circle of the W. M. U. of Liberty Baptist Church will meet with Mrs. W. E. Hancock on Monday night, January 9, at 7:30 o'clock.